THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) The 112th Report of the Department related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Science & Technology, Environment and Forests on Demands for Grants (2003-04) of the Ministry of Environment & Forests has, *inter-alia* observed that the scientific management of medical wastes is dangerously neglected in the country. The staff charged with the responsibility for sanitation, cleanliness in hospitals and other medical units seem to be ignorant of the regulation for bio-medical wastes disposal. The Committee recommended that persons in charge in small and big nursing homes and hospitals need to be trained regarding these aspects.

The Ministry of Environment and Forests has informed that Central Pollution Control Board and State Pollution Control Boards conduct training courses and workshops for personnel of Healthcare Establishments and other concerned Departments. Central Pollution Control Board has also conducted two workshops at Hyderabad in assoication with Andhra Pradesh State Pollution Control Board and also one each at Delhi and Lucknow. The Central Pollution Control Board also has funded the State Pollution Control Boards of Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Tamil Nadu, Assam, Himachal Pradesh and Chhattisgarh along with the required technical support to conduct workships on hospitals wastes management. The Ministry of Environment & Forests/ Central Pollution Control Board also supports training and awareness programmes conducted by NGOs, State Pollution Control Boards and other organisation with regard to the implementation of Bio-Medical Wastes (Management & Handling) Rules, 1998.

Sick public sector companies

†74. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of public sector companies earning profit alongwith the number of sick ones;

(b) since when these companies are lying sick and the reasons for their sickness; and

(c) Government's policy regarding such sick companies?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SUBODH MOHITE): (a) As per Public Enterprises Survey 2001-02 which was laid in the Parliament on 3.3.2003, 119 Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) earned profit during 2001-02. As per available information, 69 sick industrial CPSEs were registered with the Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR) as on 31.3.2003 and of these 69 CPSEs, 4 sick CPSEs earned profit during 2001-02.

(b) The year-wise break-up of 69 sick CPSEs which were registered with the BIFR is given below:—

Year	Number of Enterprises	Year	Number of Enterprises
1992	36	1993	6
1994	6	1995	2
1996	2	1997	3
1998	3	1999	3
2000	2	2001	2
2002	4		

The reasons for sickness are enterprise specific. However, some of the common *inter-alia* reasons include old and obsolete plant and machinery, outdated technology, excess manpower, lack of working capital, steep competition, low capacity utilization, high interest burden etc.

(c) The Government policy on sickness as announced in the Budget speech of 2000-01 is to bring down Government equity in non-strategic PSEs to 26 per cent of lower, if necessary; to restructure and revive potentially viable PSEs; to close down PSEs which cannot be revived; and to fully protect the interests of workers.

Workers' Dues in PSUs

75. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that employees of large number of Public Sector Undertakings have not been paid their wages for months together;

(b) if so, the details thereof, Undertaking-wise;